

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC # 024-2013

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO:

Mayor Matti Herrera-Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM:

Kathie G. Brooks, Interim City Manager

DATE:

January 25, 2013

SUBJECT: FDOT STATE ROAD (SR) 836/I-395 WIDENING PROJECT

The purpose of this Letter to Commission is to inform you that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will begin construction of the State Road (SR) 836/l-395 Widening Project on Monday, January 28, 2013. Construction duration is approximately sixteen (16) months. The project extends from NE 1st Avenue to Biscayne Bay in the City of Miami. The goal of the project is to widen the I-395 bridges and roadway in order to provide an additional lane in each direction, improving access to Miami Beach and traffic flow in the MacArthur Causeway by the time the Port of Miami Tunnel project is open to traffic. Once the proposed widening is completed, there will be three (3) eastbound and three (3) westbound travel lanes within the project limits. The proposed additional lanes will connect to the Port of Miami Tunnel entrance and exit and will improve safety and provide increased capacity to accommodate the demand anticipated with the completion of the Port of Miami Tunnel project in 2014.

This widening project is an interim measure intended to precede the future reconstruction of SR 836/I-395 from I-95 to the MacArthur Causeway Bridge. It is anticipated that the full reconstruction project will include an iconic bridge structure over Biscayne Boulevard in the vicinity of the Adrienne. Arsht Center and Museum Park in the City of Miami and leading into Miami Beach. The future reconstruction project is currently in the preliminary engineering phase, and its construction is unfunded in the FDOT Five-Year Work Program at this time.

The estimated construction cost of the interim widening project is \$4.2 million. In order to perform this work, FDOT will need to close travel lanes and conduct detours at times. During temporary lane closures, one lane will remain open at all times. No daytime lane closures are anticipated to occur. Nighttime lane closures during that week will occur as follows:

- 9 p.m. Monday through 5:30 a.m. Tuesday
- 9 p.m. Tuesday through 5:30 a.m. Wednesday
- 9 p.m. Wednesday through 5:30 a.m. Thursday
- 9 p.m. Thursday through 5:30 a.m. Friday
- 1 a.m. Saturday through 9 a.m. Saturday
- 1 a.m. Sunday through 10-a.m. Sunday

Lane closures may also be performed when needed on:

• 12 a.m. Monday through 5:30 a.m. Monday

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FDOT will coordinate all lane closures with the cities of Miami and Miami Beach, as well as with the ongoing Port of Miami Tunnel project. The traffic control plan will shift lanes in order to keep at least two lanes open at all times during construction.

As part of its public information program, FDOT has designated a Public Information Officer (PIO) for the project who will be the point of contact on community issues and be available on a 24/7 basis, throughout the duration of the project. The PIO will be responsible for disseminating weekly updates via e-mail to affected property owners and area stakeholders regarding construction activities, lane closures, and traffic impacts. In addition, FDOT has scheduled monthly construction coordination meetings with area stakeholders, including City of Miami Beach staff, to establish information sharing and collaboration between agencies, stakeholders, and projects affecting the I-395 corridor and the MacArthur Causeway. Lastly, FDOT has created a project website and placed information regarding lane closures and project details on the following website: www.fdotmiamidade.com.

Enclosed please find a project fact sheet which FDOT has distributed to stakeholders and property owners throughout the project area. The fact sheet includes project information, construction schedule, and contact information for the Public Information Officer for the project.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Attachment: FDOT Project Fact Sheet

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FACT SHEET

A NEW ROADWAY PROJECT WILL BEGIN IN YOUR AREA State Road (SR) 836/I-395

> FIN# 251688-3-52-01 Begins: January 2013

PROJECT LIMITS: From NE 1 Avenue to Biscayne Bay





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FACT SHEET

A NEW ROADWAY PROJECT WILL BEGIN IN YOUR AREA

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FIN# 251688-3-52-01 Begins: January 2013

OVERVIEW

On Monday January 28, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is scheduled to begin a roadway construction project along State Road (SR) 836/I-395 from NE 1 Avenue to Biscayne Bay in the City of Miami and leading into the City of Miami Beach. This project is designed to improve access to PortMiami.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

January 28, 2013 — May 2014

WORK TO BE PERFORMED

- Widening the roadway and bridges in order to provide three eastbound and three westbound travel lanes
- Installing barrier wall along the median and outside of the roadway
- Building a retaining wall system
- Installing several drainage structures to improve storm water runoff
- Installing new lighting along the roadway
- Replacing an overhead sign structure along westbound I-395 near Biscayne Bay
- Repaying and restriping the westbound I=395 exit ramp to North Bayshore Drive and the eastbound I=395 entrance ramp to the MacArthur Causeway
- Improving the riding surface of the roadway
- Updating signage and pavement markings
- Relocating and removing several trees

ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COST

\$4.2 million

AFFECTED MUNICIPALITIES

City of Miami and City of Miami Beach

LANE CLOSURE & DETOUR INFORMATION

To do this work safely, it will be necessary to close travel lanes and conduct detours at times. Nighttime lane closures will be:

- 9 p.m. Monday through 5:30 a.m. Tuesday
- 9 p.m. Tuesday through 5:30 a.m. Wednesday
- 9 p.m.: Wednesday through 5:30 a.m. Thursday
- 9 p.m. Thursday through 5:30 a.m. Friday
- 1 a.m. Saturday through 9 a.m. Saturday
- 1 a.m. Sunday through 10 a.m. Sunday

Lane closures may also be performed when needed on

• 12 a m. Monday through 5:30 a.m. Monday

Permanent work zones, which will shift the existing travel lanes, will be established to lessen the effects of construction. Nighttime detours will be used while the contractor performs certain work, along I-395, Biscayne Boulevard and North Bayshore Drive. Nighttime detours will also be used while performing work at the entrance and exit ramps of Biscayne Boulevard and North. Bayshore Drive.

HELPFUL TIPS

- 7. Allow extra time to reach your destination
- Obey all posted signs and speed limits

ALWAYS PUT SAFETY FIRST

For your safety and the safety of others, please use caution when driving, walking or biking around any construction zone. Wearing a safety belt is the single most effective way to protect people and reduce fatalities in motor vehicle crashes. The department takes steps to reduce construction effects, but you might experience the following around the work site. Please note that this schedule could change due to bad weather or other unexpected conditions.

- Travel lane closures and detours
- Periodic closures of City of Miami parking lots under I-395
- Increased dust and noise
- Workers and equipment moving around the area.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information, please contact CCEI Senior Project Engineer Jenner Alfaro, P.E., at (305) 265-5400, or Public Information Specialist Heather Leslie at (305) 640-7462 or Heather Leslie@dot.state.fl.us.



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